

BARRE DAILY TIMES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1916.

Entered at the Postoffice at Barre as Second-Class Mail Matter

Published Every Week-Day Afternoon

BUTTERFIELD RATES

One year \$3.00
 One month25
 Single copy 1 cent

FRANK E. LANGLEY, Publisher

It is definitely determined that the kaiser is either well or not well.

The allies' operations in the Balkans have been a complete discredit thus far.

It is a little-bore patriot who would defeat "preparedness" if it means a lean "pork barrel."

Children's playgrounds are multiplying in the United States. Which is as it should be.

Those who desire to keep abreast of the trend of municipal affairs in Barre are urged to read the reports of the officers and committees.

Forty buildings in Wirt, Okla., were burned, and the total loss was \$150,000. Wirt's entire collection of portable garages must have been consumed.

Both Bennington and Chiswick, Mass., lost little school time by the fires which damaged or destroyed their high school structures. A school system, fortunately, cannot burn.

The University of Vermont baseball team will start the 1916 season without a single veteran player, not even one for captain. In other words, it will have to strike out for itself.

Being catapulted through air for a distance of 161 feet and six inches, even by voluntary action as in the case of Canada's champion ski jumper, must put the "movies" out of business for real thrills.

There were fewer deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs in Barre during the past year than in the preceding 12 months. With the introduction of dust-removing devices, the decrease should continue through the next succeeding years, until the deaths are reduced to a minimum.

The result of the trial in Bennington county court, in which a youth was awarded \$5,000 damages from the man who destroyed the boy's eyesight by shooting peas at an alleged grapevine marauder, adds another chapter to powerful warning to develop self-restraint. The warning is not one-sided either.

THE NEW HEAD OF THE NATIONAL LIFE.

It is enough, perhaps, to say that Fred A. Howland's election to be president of the National Life Insurance company is the logical action in the course of the changes made necessary by the death of Joseph A. DeBoer; but possibly a word or two in addition will serve to emphasize that conviction for those who may not be conversant with the situation. In the first place it should be stated that Mr. Howland's entry upon official duties with the National Life company was almost simultaneous with the elevation of Mr. DeBoer to the presidency of that institution, only a few months intervening after the latter became the administrative head until Mr. Howland was chosen as general counsel. Prior to that, of course, Mr. DeBoer had served a dozen years in various capacities at the home office; but, practically, Mr. Howland began his association with the company at the outset of the DeBoer administration. Thus during 13 years the two men had worked in close relationship toward the upbuilding of the company, and during that time Mr. Howland became thoroughly acquainted with the successful methods practiced by Mr. DeBoer and was, indeed, in position to aid materially in perfecting those methods. In short, Mr. Howland was acquiring intimate knowledge of the policy of administration so ably mapped out for the National Life Insurance company and he also was gaining that valuable experience in general insurance matters which will serve him in such good stead now that the mutability of human affairs has brought him to the position of chief administrative officer. Thus Mr. Howland has the benefit of insurance experience.

But experience in insurance matters is by no means the measure of the new executive because prior to going with the National Life Mr. Howland was busily engaged in filling out a career of usefulness and of honor in the practice of his profession as a lawyer and in service to the state of Vermont in many capacities. Starting with the benefits of good preparatory school and college training, he entered the profession of the law and was soon admitted to partnership in one of the best known firms of legal practitioners in Vermont, and at the same time he was being given official preferment, first in minor capacities and later in the position of secretary of state, together with which office went that of insurance commissioner for the state. He also served in other positions which required keenness of intellect and concentration of effort, such as chairman of the commission to prepare revision of the banking laws of Vermont. In all these positions Mr. Howland gave satisfactory service and for himself gained a good foundation along general lines on which to base a specialized career like that in the insurance field.

Added to these qualifications of natural and acquired talent and of wide experience in general affairs and in insurance, the new executive of the National Life Insurance company commands also a personality which seems to fit in well with the requirements of the position; and that should go far toward giving him the success in administration which is confidently predicted for President Howland.

Little Montenegro was one of the first to bristle up to big Austria and bigger Germany, and it is the first to capitulate to them, thus breaking the ranks of the entente allies for the first time since the general declaration of war early in August of 1914. In its declaration against Austria and Germany, Montenegro had the courage of its convictions and that was about all it did have. Indeed, so destitute was it of men and war resources that its success depended entirely upon the support of the nations with which it was allied. Montenegro in the heyday of its warlike spirit could muster not more than 50,000 fighting men, and those men it sent into the conflict poorly armed, poorly equipped as to commissariat and poorly backed by heavy artillery. Against them were arrayed the splendidly equipped millions of some very near neighbors. As long as those big neighbors were engaged in meeting nations of their own size and strength, little Montenegro had things pretty comfortable in its particular niche of the Balkans, but once the big neighbors found it to their advantage to divert their attention partially from their natural opponents little Montenegro was really but a mouse beneath the foot of an elephant. Serbia, more powerful than Montenegro and first in the line of the Teutonic march, made valiant defense but succumbed to mere force and thus forested the fate of Montenegro's defenders. For what could an army of 50,000 poorly equipped men do against the hundreds of thousands sent directly against them by well-prepared nations? Nothing, of course. Such proved to be the case, and Montenegro is out of the war.

THE FIRST BREAK IN THE ENTENTE ALIGNMENT.

Just what effect the withdrawal of Montenegro will have on the fortunes of the war is not certain, but so far as material assistance is concerned Montenegro might as well have never been in the war. It could do no more than pester its big foe; it never could inflict any serious wound. But when it comes to the intangible influence of Montenegro's withdrawal, that is entirely another matter. To be sure, Montenegro was not reckoned as a member of the entente alliance against the central powers and it did not weigh heavily in the war councils; but there is an indefinable something which goes with the first break in the solidarity of a combination that brings a very depressing influence on the others previously associated with it. No doubt that depression is being felt among the countries aligned on the side of the entente powers, and it is more powerfully felt in the Balkan region and in Italy than in Great Britain, France or even Russia. The efforts of those three great nations will be directed, as being directed, in fact, toward countering that subtle influence; the Serbs drive the Russians in the Caucasus and in Bessarabia, of the British expedition on the Tigris river and of the

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CURRENT COMMENT

Calls for a Blockade.

New demands for the "starvation of Germany" are heard in England, in Parliament and out. Sir Edward Grey's policy of a half blockade sparing Germany and the British fleet, has offended neutral powers without entirely stopping their shipments to Germany. Something new, if Germany is to feel Britain's strength, must be tried; and the British navy is the only untried resource of the empire.

If Sir Edward Grey revises the policies of the foreign office, under the pressure now bearing upon him, England will find a more friendly spirit among the neutral nations that have complained at the orders in council—those British orders, that substituted a British scheme for the recognized international laws of blockade. Neutrals will hardly forget; British control of world commerce during the war has been a heavy blow to the traditional freedom of the seas. But there are many Englishmen who feel that their country's face would be saved by finishing the war, in a large and legal enterprise, even at the cost of several severe naval battles, such as doubtless would follow blockade tactics in Baltic waters.

The London Times reports a sentiment "that the navy should be given a freer hand in tightening the blockade." The Daily Telegraph calls for a demonstration of the "firm will" of the allies "to prevent commodities of any kind from reaching Germany," and adds that "the fleet must be employed remorselessly, ruthlessly, relentlessly."

The United States, a neutral, can't profess to be interested in a demonstration of the worth of modern sea power in a crucial struggle between England and Germany. But we can hope for a real blockade as a means of ending our controversy with the dodging British government. We aren't getting on well with England, and can't until the complies with the law and makes her blockade reach the commerce of all neutrals.—Boston Journal.

His Favorite Beast.

Harris Dickinson, on a hunting trip in Sunflower county, Mississippi, met an old darkey who had never seen a circus in his life. When the big show came in the following season to Dickinson's town of Vicksburg he sent for the old man and treated him to the whole thing—arrival of the trains, putting up the tents, grand free street parade, menagerie, main performance, concert, side show, peanuts, red lemonade, and all.

The old darkey followed his white patron through with popping eyes, but saying never a word. Late in the afternoon they got back to the Dickinson home.

"John," said Dickinson, "you enjoyed it?"

"Boss," said John fervently. "Ah shore did."

"What did you like the most?"

"Mistah Dickinson," answered John, "Ah shore liked hit all."

"Well, what impressed you most?"

"Well, sah, boss," he said, "Ah reckon hit was dat dere animal you calls de camel."

"The camel, eh? Well, what was so remarkable about the camel?"

"He suttinly is got such a noble smell,"—Saturday Evening Post.

APPRECIATION WORDS FOR LATE J. A. DEBOER

(Continued from first page.)

does not show the constructive effect of his energizing influence, and, while we profoundly deplore the withdrawal of that influence, which in its potency for good to the company cannot be measured, yet it comes at the moment of the company's greatest strength, with its policy of investment and underwriting firmly established on foundations that have been proved to be sound and secure. The directors of the company and the official associates of President DeBoer were in the fullest sympathy and accord with his insurance and investment policies, and those policies will be consistently pursued in the future management of the company's affairs.

Resolutions Adopted By Policyholders.

The policyholders adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas the National Life Insurance company of Vermont has suffered a well-nigh irreparable loss in the removal by death of its president, Joseph A. DeBoer, December 28, 1915, and

"Whereas it is deemed fitting and appropriate that the policyholders in this company, whose interests were so near to the heart of its dead president, should give expression to their appreciation of his worth as a corporate official, public-spirited citizen and unswerving friend, now be it

"Resolved, That we, the policyholders in the National Life Insurance company of Vermont, individually and as a body do express our utter sense of bereavement at the passing of our chief executive.

"Keenly aware at this time of the influence that contributed to the approximation of Mr. DeBoer's ideals, we note in retrospect; the sturdy Dutch stock whose racial participation in our early colonial affairs was so significant; the habitual self-reliance of his early boyhood; the industry and persistence of his school life; the marked scholarship and its reward of his college days; his enthusiasm and wise tolerance as an instructor of youth and friend of education; his fearless acceptance of an unfamiliar post of peculiar responsibility in this company; his quick mastery of the intricate problems of actuarial systems and their practical application; his long and arduous activity in the successive posts of secretary, second vice-president and first vice-president, and finally his splendid service as chief executive and administrative officer of a great financial organization, the history of whose later growth and stable maturity was his own.

"Especially is it meet and proper to record our appreciation of Mr. DeBoer's wise foresight, alert vigilance and prompt

action in safeguarding the interests of the policyholders and the company in the many trying emergencies incidental to his office.

"We applaud the discriminating judgment that steered a safe course between obsolescent methods and too radical innovations and recognize with grateful admiration the results of an administrative policy that has placed the company in the proud position it holds in the state and nation. We are sensible of Mr. DeBoer's unvarying recognition of the interdependence of corporate, community and individual endeavor; his tenacious grasp of their ethical and political relationship in their several ramifications; his equitable and just conceptions of their true proportions and his single-minded efforts toward their preservation; his insistence upon the influence that make for mutual confidence and concerted effort in the official staff and rank of employees, his patient consideration and helpful attitude toward them; his dignity, courtesy and justice toward the policyholders without discriminating favor or special privilege to individuals, and, generally, his invariable kindness and humanity to those in trouble or distress.

"And be it further

"Resolved, That we, as policyholders, within and without the state, join in the desire to perpetuate in these records the eloquent tribute paid by Joseph A. DeBoer himself to the state of his adoption as an imperishable reminder of the sentiments that informed his ideals as a citizen:

"It is probably true that Vermont, as nearly as any spot upon the earth's crust, has been the scene of the most conspicuous action by men in all efforts to create, maintain, and advance a true independence of person and state and upon principles fundamentally included in the term self-government."

"It is people came of stock which held education, religion, freedom of person, and honest dealings in chief regard, and they were ready, in sustaining these aspects of sovereignty, to sacrifice all."

"And it is further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family of Mr. DeBoer, another to the press and another be inscribed upon the records of this company in due form."

Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the many friends who assisted us during the illness and death of our darling Lucy; also for the sympathy shown and the many flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Ercle Cerasoli and family,
 Mr. and Mrs. N. Coia,
 John Spera,
 Mr. and Mrs. Emedio Spera,
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Deleotto.

January Rubber Sale

Converse Rubbers

Direct from the Malden Factory

This past week while in Boston I managed to get on the inside of the big Rubber Sale at the Converse factory. Tuesday, 18, they shipped me 586 pairs of Men's, Women's and Children's Rubbers, including 276 pairs of Leather-Heel Rubbers. I am going to lump them all in one price, saving you from 20c to 35c on each pair.

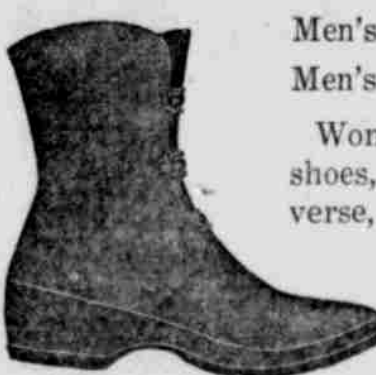
NOTE—These Rubbers are not a bunch of shop-worn merchandise, but brand new Rubbers, with imperfections that in no way harms their wearing qualities.

Rubbers!



310 pairs Women's 75c and 90c Rubbers, Sale Price 55c
 Men's \$1.00 and \$1.25 grade Converse Rubbers, per pair 79c
 86 pairs Boys' 75c and 90c Rubbers, our low sale price, per pair 59c
 Misses' and Children's 50c to 65c Converse Rubbers; Sale Price 45c and 49c
 129 pairs Women's Rubbers, odd sizes, per pair 49c
 60 pairs Men's Rubbers, large sizes, per pair 59c

1 and 4 Buckle Overshoes



Men's 1-buckle, per pair .. \$1.29
 Men's 4-buckle, per pair .. 1.98
 Women's and Children's Overshoes, including Hood, Converse, Victor, etc., at cost prices.

Bargains!

We have only space to mention a few of the many bargains that we have to offer you.

60 pairs Women's Foothold Slip-On Rubbers, Converse Brand, sale price, per pair 39c

You will find just what we advertise when you visit our Rubber Sale.

Trade at

SHEA'S SHOESTORE

for Money-Saving Prices

CORSET SALE

This Will be the Greatest Corset Sale of the Year

Our Corset manufacturers are doing something

Received one case of Corsets and go on sale to-day

\$1.00 Corset

any model you want, until sold, for 69c per pair—Come early for your size

Big Sale Wash Goods

All Gingham, Outings, Plaids, Wash Silks, everything reduced; 8c and 10c Remnants of Colored Outings for 5½c per yard.

Two thousand yards best 12½c Percales for 9c yard. Make us busy this evening.

Our January Clearance Sale

Everything in the Store Reduced

Garments, Coats, Skirts, Dresses, Furs, Fur Muffs, Blankets, Comfortables, Winter Underwear, Outing Flannels, Wash Goods, Dress Goods, Waists, Corsets, Petticoats

Big Sale Furs and Coats

Ladies' Coats, to close at
 \$1.98, \$2.98, \$5.00, \$7.50, \$8.98, \$10.00 up
 Misses' and Children's Coats, all reduced, at...
 \$1.98, \$2.25 up
 See the nice Muffs at \$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98, \$5.00 up
 Fur Sets at \$8.00, \$10.00, \$12.50 up

The Vaughan Store

If you haven't all the business you want, advertise in The Times.

Ladies' and Men's Felt Shoes and Slippers at

20 per cent discount

You have eight or ten weeks yet in which to wear these goods this season, and they will be just as good next year. Come early, while we have your size.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot

Barre, Vermont Shop 170 No. Main St.